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TITLE : MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY TO RABBIT MMP-3 AND IMMUNOASSAY USING THE SAME

ABSTRACT : PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To obtain a new monoclonal antibody immunoreactive specifically with rabbit matrix metalloprotease (MMP-3), to be used for e.g. assaying MMP-3 and useful for the therapy and research of chronic rheumatoid arthritis using animal models.

SOLUTION: This new antibody, which is immunoreactive specifically with rabbit matrix metalloprotease (MMP-3), is used for sandwich enzyme immunoassay (ETA) and useful for the fundamental medical research of osteoarthropathy (OA) and chronic rheumatoid arthritis (RA) using animal models and for the development of medicines for treating such diseases. This monoclonal antibody is obtained by the following process: rabbit MMP-3 derived from rabbit tissue is bound to a carrier protein such as bovine serum albumin and administered to a BALB/c mouse in combination with an adjuvant to effect immunization of the mouse, the spleen cells of the resultant mouse are fused with myeloma cells followed by conducting a selective culture in a HAT medium and then selecting an antibody-productive strain which is then cloned, and the resultant hybridoma is cultured.

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